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## Shannon Road-Rillito Creek Site

### Site Description

The Shannon Road-Rillito Creek Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund (WQARF) Site is located in the west area of Tucson. The site extends approximately 1/4 mile to the north and south of Rillito Creek, and is bounded approximately by Meadowbrook Park to the east and Peglar Wash Park to the west.

WQARF is a program established by the Arizona State Legislature to conduct statewide surface and groundwater monitoring, study health effects of contamination, perform emergency remedial actions and conduct site investigations and long-term remediations. The WQARF Program is funded with state monies and funds recovered from parties responsible for contamination.

Groundwater at the Shannon Road-Rillito Creek WQARF Site is found at approximately 130 feet below land surface, and is contaminated with tetrachloroethene (PCE) and trichloroethene (TCE), both occurring above regulatory limits. TCE and four other substances have also been detected in the groundwater below regulatory limits: 1,1-dichloroethane, 1,1-dichloroethene, cis-1,2-dichloroethene and dichlorodifluoromethane (Freon 12).

### Site History

In 1993, volatile organic compounds (VOCs) were detected below regula-

tory limits in the city of Tucson Z-006A water supply well. This well was taken out of the Tucson Water distribution system, and is currently used as a monitor well.

In 1994, VOCs were also detected below regulatory limits in the Metropolitan Domestic Water Improvement District (Metro Water) South Shannon well and in the Acacia Gardens Mobile Home Park water supply well. Metro Water redesignated the South Shannon well as a backup well and the water drawn from it was blended with the water from two other wells prior to distribution. In June 1997, Metro Water completed the installation of a wellhead treatment system for the South Shannon well, which removes the VOCs to below detectable levels.

In 1995, Acacia Gardens Mobile Home Park was connected to Tucson Water, after PCE concentrations exceeded the regulatory limit. In 1997, the owners of Acacia Gardens installed a wellhead treatment system for their well and operated their system until December 2000. The Acacia Gardens well was abandoned in 2001. The mobile home park is currently being supplied water from the city of Tucson.

The Shannon Road-Rillito Creek site was placed on the WQARF Registry in April 1999 with a score of 53 out of a possible 120.

The Shannon Road-Rillito Creek WQARF Site was originally considered to be part of the El Camino del Cerro WQARF Site to the southwest. However, shallow wells lying between the two sites have appeared to be uncontaminated. Additional investigations of this area will take place to determine if the two sites are related.

Upcoming site investigation activities include the installation of several monitor wells. One well will be located between the site and the El Camino del Cerro WQARF Site, one between Metro Water's South Shannon well and their DeConcini well to the north, and wells to the east and west of the current site boundaries.

### **Site Investigation/Cleanup Action**

ADEQ is currently conducting the remedial investigation as part of the WQARF Site remediation process. The remedial investigation activities help determine what contaminants are present at the site and the extent of the contamination, as well as potential sources of the contamination.

Following the remedial investigation will be a feasibility study to evaluate and select the appropriate cleanup option to protect groundwater resources at the Shannon Road-Rillito Creek WQARF Site.

### **Potential Health Effects**

Risks associated with exposure to the contaminants would principally be related to drinking the contaminated groundwater. Since no one is known to be drinking contaminated water, no one is known to be at risk of exposure to the contaminants. A water treatment system is being utilized by Metro Water to ensure that drinking

water meets the drinking water standards.

### **Community Involvement**

A joint Community Advisory Board (CAB) was formed for the Shannon Road-Rillito Creek WQARF Site and the El Camino del Cerro WQARF Site. The Shannon Road/El Camino del Cerro CAB consists of concerned citizens representing the community, businesses, water providers and other interested parties. The boards advise ADEQ, the public and other interested parties of issues and concerns related to the cleanup of the sites. Meetings are held at least four times a year and are open to the public.

### **For More Information...**

For further information about the Shannon Road-Rillito Creek WQARF Site, please call Michael Romero, ADEQ project manager at (520) 770-3126.

For information about community involvement or the Shannon Road/El Camino del Cerro CAB, contact Melissa Hayes, ADEQ community involvement coordinator, at (520) 770-3309.

*Copies of pertinent reports and CAB meeting information are placed in the site information repository at the Nanini Library, 7300 N. Shannon Rd., in Tucson, as they become available.*

For information about any WQARF Site, visit the ADEQ Web site at [www.adeq.state.az.us](http://www.adeq.state.az.us). Click on Environmental Programs on the left, then click on Waste Programs Division, scroll down to Superfund (WQARF/NPL) Programs, and follow the prompts for the information you need.